NOS Synergy Overview

Ted Lillestolen

Disaster Response Planning Synergy Team

Rich Permenter

Disaster Response Planning

- GOAL: Develop an effective NOS all hazards emergency response plan for natural, technological and other extreme environmental events.
- Specific Tasks
  - Develop a natural disaster response plan for NOS to:
    - ensure effective application of NOS capabilities
    - coordinate NOS disaster response
    - seek out and develop leadership roles for NOS in disaster response
- Offices Represented: OR&R, CO-OPS, CS, CSC, NCCOS, NGS (Geodesy & Photo), OCRM, SP

Disaster Response Planning Accomplishments

- Two initial hurricane responses before project actually got started
- Established the working framework for NOS disaster response
- Refinement of scope into something achievable, expandable, and significant
- NOS-State working session (June 99); established positive connections between state CZM and Emergency Management Agencies
- Enhanced visibility for NOS, enhanced credibility with state partners; NOS commitment noted

Disaster Response Planning
Notable Impediments/Issues

- Very large and all-inclusive project; how and where to start and achieve notable results.
- Need to deal with unfamiliar portions of FEMA
- Confusion between disaster response planning and hazards programs
- Getting time from NOS players
- Think NOS rather than program unit

Disaster Response Planning
Recommended Next Steps

- Complete Pilot Project Plan and field test with Hurricane; refine as required *
- Expand Pilot Project concept to non-Hurricane event planning in different region (FY2000)
- Non-declared disaster response planning and deployment *
- NOS work on leadership role at NOAA level for disaster response *

(* Recommendations already approved by NOS/SMC)

Disaster Response Planning

Lessons Learned

- What went well
  - Major investment of time up front by Office leadership to define overall scope and objective, specific deliverables, timetable
  - Firm commitment by responsible office leadership
  - Level of commitment from team members and offices
  - No waste of team members' time
- What didn't go well
  - Press of routine and reorg-related business; over-extended in some cases
  - Serious disconnect between talk-the-talk, and walk-the-walk
  - Level of commitment from team members and offices
  - Inconsistent priority

Hurricane Mitch Disaster Response Planning Special Report

Dave McKinnie

Hurricane Mitch Disaster Response

Reconstruction

an Integrated Federal Response

- ORR/CSC
  - Dave McKinnie (lead)
- NGS
- CO-OPS
- NCCOS

Hurricane Mitch Disaster Response

Department of Commerce Proposal

The NOS Role

- Base Infrastructure
  - NGS
  - CO-OPS
- Early Warning Systems
- Preparedness and Response
  - ORR
- Sustainable, Resilient Communities
  - ORR
  - CSC
  - NCCOS
- Program Management

Hurricane Mitch Disaster Response

Status and Progress

- Initial Department proposal accepted
- Refinements underway based on recon, USAID mission comments underway
- Programmatic linkages to other federal agency efforts under development
- Opportunities for NOS programs evolving

Hurricane Mitch Disaster Response

Initial Assessment

- Clear problem to address; context for collaboration
- Collaboration among NOS offices automatic to meet challenge
- "What synergy project?"
- Too early to draw complete conclusions

Hurricane Mitch Disaster Response

Initial Assessment (cont.)

- USAID Process
- Response outside normal program responsibilities
- No systematic investment in response capability
- Too early to draw complete conclusions

Dredging Synergy Team

Neil Christerson

DREDGING

Objective:

Build a NOAA dredging initiative to address dredging activities in the coastal zone by capitalizing on NOAA's natural resource trusteeship role, its coastal stewardship role, and its resources and expertise in coastal and ocean management.

Dredging

Participating Offices

- NOS
  - OCRM, ORR, OCS, NGS, NCCOS, CO-OPS, CSC, SPO
- NMFS
  - Office of Habitat Conservation
  - Office of Protected Resources
- OAR
  - Sea Grant
- Lead NOS Office/Person
  - OCRM Coastal Programs Division
  - Neil Christerson

Dredging
Accomplishments

- NOAA Intra-Office Dredging Meeting in Spring, 1998
- Dredging/Restoration Lands Legacy Initiative Coordination
- Pilot Project selection
- Dredging/State Coastal Program Workshop in January, 1999 (Report recommendations)
- CZ99 Dredging Sessions

Dredging

Recommended Next Steps

- Re-evaluate the role of the Dredging Action Group
- Dedicate appropriate resources to the dredging initiative
- Develop and maintain a NOAA Dredging Resources Document (adapt to NOAA web page)
- Work with the National Dredging Team to implement January 1999 Workshop recommendations

Dredging
Lessons Learned

- What went well
  - Workshops, discussion, and coordination
  - Established basis for NOAA offices to begin dialog
  - Able to build on ongoing local/regional NOAA involvement
  - Use of information tools is critical
  - Knowledgeable contacts are extremely helpful
  - Core group facilitates decision making and spreads workload
- What didn't go well
  - Lack of clear direction in synergy assignment.
  - Lack of appropriate resources inhibited coordination
  - Lack of a shared goal and commitment among team members
  - Size of NOAA hinders rapid information flow and coordination
  - Lack of synergy among synergy initiatives

Nutrient Pollution Synergy Team

Nancy Ragland

Nutrient Pollution

Goal: Providing a comprehensive and consistent response to nutrient pollution

- Frank Aikman, CS
- Dan Basta, SP
- Suzanne Bricker, SP
- Mary Culver, CSC
- Stephen Gill, CO-OPS
- Kurt Hess, CS
- Clement Lewsey, IPO
- Jim Lucas, NGS
- Danielle Luttenberg, NCCOS
- Geno Olmi, CSC
- Bruce Parker, CS
- Rich Permenter, ORR
- Nancy Ragland, NCCOS*
- Andy Robertson, NCCOS
- Peyton Robertson, OCRM
- Don Scavia, NCCOS
- Becky Smyth, MB
- Nathalie Valette-Silver, NCCOS

Nutrient Pollution
Accomplishments

- Synergy Proposal, 11/98
- Initial SMC Briefing, 11/98
- Capabilities & Current Activities Workshop, 1/99
- Program and Staff Office Descriptions, 1/99
- Short Term Activities Planning, 5/99
- SMC Briefing, 5/99

- Scheduled: Assessment Criteria Meeting, 7/99

Nutrient Pollution
Impediments & Next Steps

- Started preparing a "Strategy" before knowing the interests and capabilities of each of the offices
- Lack of funding
- Recommended next steps include:
  - Select sites for pilot assessments
  - Conduct integrated assessments (pilots)
  - Develop NOS's Nutrient Pollution Strategy
  - Identify the gaps exposed by the assessments
  - Exchange information regularly to improve coordination within NOS

Nutrient Pollution
Lessons Learned

- What went well
  - NOS capabilities cover the complete range of activities related to nutrient pollution: research, monitoring, assessment, management, and education.
  - Several NOS offices are interested in pursuing a comprehensive NOS program in nutrient pollution.

Nutrient Pollution
Lessons Learned

- What didn't go well
  - Nutrient Pollution as a mainline NOS program is just an emerging idea.
  - Capabilities and activities related to nutrient pollution are disconnected bits and pieces; need to be better structured within a major program.
  - Not *all* NOS Offices are interested in fully participating in the nutrient synergy team. Is that okay?

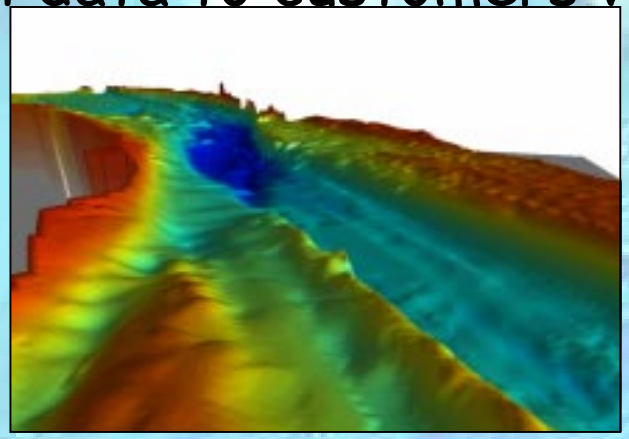
Spatial Data Synergy Team

Maureen Kenny

Spatial Data

Objective:

To develop a system of people, protocols, and capabilities that efficiently collects, locates, and delivers digital coastal spatial data to customers via user-friendly technology.



Participating Offices:

All NOS Program Areas

Lead Office:

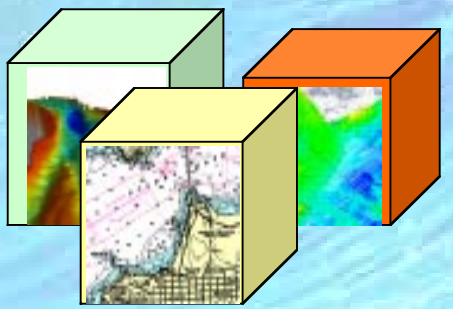
Office of Coast Survey

Team Leads - Millington Lockwood, Maureen Kenny

Spatial Data

Accomplishments

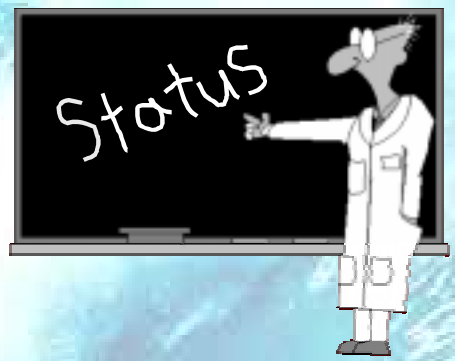
- Opened Communications Between Program Areas
- Team Served as Focal Point for NOS Geospatial Issues
- Identified Specific Objectives
  - Catalog NOS's Geospatial Assets
  - Evaluate (and Transform) Data to Make It Available
  - Design/Implement a Unified Delivery System
  - Educate



Spatial Data

Status

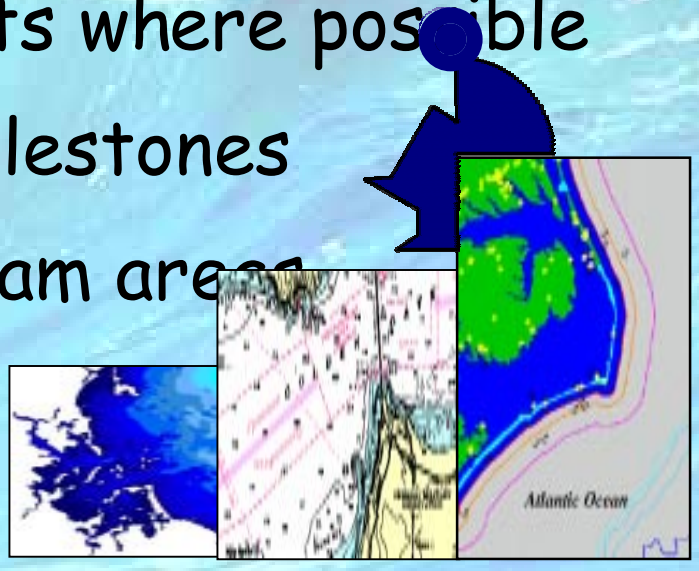
- Preliminary Report and Operating Plan - *Nearing Completion*
- Spatial Data Inventory - *Underway*
- Shoreline Database - *Discussions Underway & Data Rescue Begun*
- Bathymetric Database - *Project Requirements Under Review by Team*
- Digital Cadastral Database - *In process*
- Metadata for Managers Course - *SMC, Aug 16*
- Workshop to Design Data Delivery System - *In planning*



Spatial Data

Recommended Next Steps

- Consider this an ongoing process
  - ➡ Support team members involvement
- Continue to explore avenues of funding
  - ➡ Support funding requests where possible
- Include in AOP as funded milestones
- Expand education into program areas
  - (Federal Geographic Data Committee metadata, clearinghouse)



Spatial Data
Lessons Learned

Supportive:

- Dedication and time is required to make the project succeed
- Open communications are imperative

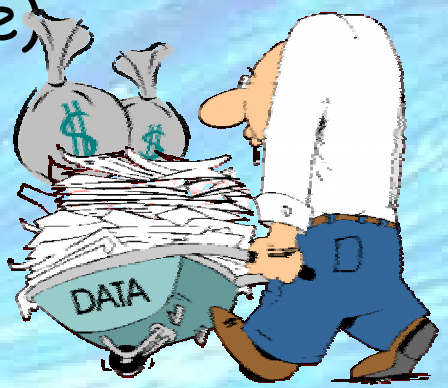
Impediments:

- Resource Allocation (funding and people)

  Unfunded milestones are difficult…

- Open communications are imperative

  Commitment --- Collaboration



Coral Ecosystems Synergy Team

Bud Cross

Coral Ecosystems

(outgrowth of Habitat Synergy Team)

Objective: Develop a NOS goal for coral ecosystems and describe its relationship to NOAA's and the Interagency Task Force's goals

- Participating Offices for Habitat Synergy (Coral Synergy Team not yet established):
  - Charlie Alexander _ SP
  - Clement Lewsey _ IPO
  - Steve Matula _ NGS
  - Matt Menashes _ OCRM
  - Becky Smyth _ PAC
  - Amy Merten _ ORR
  - Pace Wilber _ CSC
  - Gene Fritz, Tina Armstrong _ NCCOS

Coral Ecosystems
Accomplishments and Status

- Habitat synergy effort initiated by SP, CSC, ORR, and CS
- Matrix of habitat activities based on FY1999 AOP developed
- Full NOS habitat synergy team convened, team actions proposed
- Habitat synergy presentation to SMC, after which SMC suggested refocusing the habitat synergy team on coral ecosystems
- Coral ecosystems synergy effort begun

Coral Ecosystems
Next Steps

- Develop a timeline, terms of reference, base questions, and additional parameters to present for SMC approval
- Determine relationship between Coral Synergy effort and the proposed framework for coordination under the 1998 Executive Order on Coral Reef Protection
- Explore mechanisms for interacting with the other components of NOAA

Coral Ecosystems
Lessons Learned

- What went well
  - Extensive habitat synergy currently taking place
  - Habitat as a topic is better addresses through smaller, more well_defined pieces, e.g. coral ecosystems
  - Improved AOP may provide valuable information on NOS' habitat activities

Coral Ecosystems
Lessons Learned

- What didn't go well
  - Poor definition of expected products and outcomes of habitat team
  - Habitat was too broad as a topic
  - Unable to develop unified approach to habitat